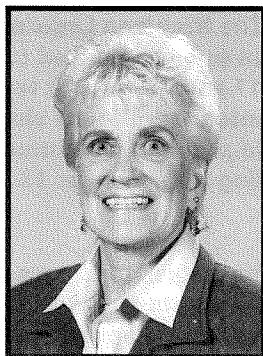


# Hammerstrom's

for the people  
in the 17th Senate District

# Hotline



State Senator

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**53RD ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF MICHIGAN WEEK MAY 20-26** This year's Michigan Week theme is "Great Lakes, Great Traditions: The Magic of Michigan." If you and your family are looking for ways to learn more about Michigan this week, consider this year's list of Michigan's Notable Books. Every year, the Library of Michigan chooses 20 of the previous year's best books either written by a Michigan resident or about Michigan or the Great Lakes. Each title, whether nonfiction or fiction, proves undoubtedly that some of the greatest stories are found in the Great Lakes State. The program, formerly known as Read Michigan, started as part of Michigan Week approximately 15 years ago and honors the quality of storytelling happening right here in this great state. More than a dozen Notables authors will take their stories on the road to more than 50 libraries across the state. If you would like more information about this program, please visit [www.michigan.gov/notablebooks](http://www.michigan.gov/notablebooks).

**DID YOU KNOW?** On May 26, 1927, Ford Motor Company ended production of the Model T, America's first mass-produced automobile.

**MICHIGAN SENATE TO HOST MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE** As you and your family and friends prepare to welcome the beginning of summer this Memorial Day weekend, please take a moment to reflect on the significance of this special holiday and remember the lives of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. The Michigan State Senate will honor our nation's fallen soldiers during a special Memorial Day presentation on Thursday, May 25. Each Senator will pay tribute to soldiers from their districts who lost their lives during the past year as part of the Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom efforts. The service will also include members of various veterans' groups and organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans.

**LEGISLATURE ACTS TO FURTHER PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL PREDATORS** Last year, the country was stunned with news of the abduction of 9-year-old Jessica Lunsford. Jessica was kidnapped and killed by a convicted sex offender in Florida. Soon after her death, the Florida Legislature enacted tougher laws against convicted child molesters. Other states have followed, including Michigan, with their own versions of Jessica's Law. The Michigan Legislature recently passed a package of bills which call for certain repeat sex offenders who target children to be sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. Included in the package are Senate Bills 709, 717 and 718, which would require repeat offenders convicted of criminal sexual conduct in the first degree to serve a life sentence without a chance of parole if their victims were under the age of 13. Michigan's version of "Jessica's Law" would provide a minimum of 25 years in prison with lifetime parole for anyone 17 years or older convicted of sexually assaulting a child under 13. The bills were overwhelmingly supported by both chambers.

**LEGISLATION RESTRICTING FUNERAL DEMONSTRATIONS SENT TO GOVERNOR** The Legislature passed a measure which would allow local units of government to require groups to seek a permit to demonstrate on public property outside a funeral home, cemetery, mosque or synagogue. Senate Bill 1199 was introduced in response to recent protests at military funerals and allows local units of government to require protestors to apply for and be issued a permit in order to demonstrate where a funeral or memorial service is taking place. Additionally, the local government may charge a fee for the application and issuance of a permit. SB 1199 has been presented to the Governor for approval.

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If you would like to receive future issues of Hammerstrom's Hotline via e-mail,  
please contact me at [SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov)